



NANTWICH URBAN DISTRICT

1956



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TO WHICH IS APPENDED

The REPORT of The PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29899175>

NANTWICH URBAN DISTRICT.

A N N U A L R E P O R T

upon the

HEALTH AND SANITARY CONDITION

of the

URBAN DISTRICT OF NANTWICH

for the Year 1956.

R. KENNETH HAY, M. D., D. P. H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

E. W. BUSHELL, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., C.S.I.B.,

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Health Department,
Brookfield House,
NANTWICH.

I N D E X.

Number of Page.

Adopted Acts...	24.
Ambulance Facilities.	4.
Blindness - Prevention of..	10.
Bugs - Eradication of	8 & 18.
Canal Boats ...	18.
Clinics and Centres..	5.
Closet Accommodation.	7 & 20.
Common Lodging Houses	18.
Dairies and Cowsheds.	16.
Defects noted and remedied.	15.
Factories.	11, 12 & 17.
Food - Inspection and Supervision of...	8, 21, 22 & 23.
Food Premises..	17, 21, 22 & 23.
Health Services of the Area	3, 4, 5 & 6.
Hospitals.	6.
Housing...	15 & 16.
Immunisation against Diphtheria..	8 & 9.
Infectious Diseases..	8, 9, 10 & 16.
Laboratory Facilities	4.
Licensed Premises	18.
Milk Supply ...	16 & 17.
Mortuary..	6.
Moveable Dwellings...	8 & 18.
Notices served.	14 & 15.
Nursing in the Home..	5.
Offensive Trades	18.
Pail Closets...	20.
Public Baths...	7.
Public Cleansing	7.
Rivers and Streams...	7 & 20.
Rodent Control.	19 & 20.
Sanitary Circumstances of the Area	8.
Sanitation and Nuisances - General	20.
Schools...	18 & 23.
Sewage Disposal	7.
Shell Fish	8.
Shops	8 & 17.
Slaughter of Animals.	20.
Smoke Abatement	8 & 18.
Statistics and Social Conditions.	2 & 3.
Tuberculosis...	10 & 11.
Vaccination	9 & 10.
Vermin	8 & 18.
Visits - Public Health Inspector.	14.
Vital Statistics	2 & 3.
Water Supply...	6, 7 & 17.

Health Department,
Brookfield House,
Nantwich.

October, 1957.

To The Chairman and Members of the
Nantwich Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen;

I have much pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the Nantwich Urban District for the year 1956.

From the statistical point of view, it will be noted that the estimated mid-year population shows an increase of 260. This presents a much more satisfactory picture than in the previous year.

There were comparatively few cases of Infectious diseases notified. For any single disease, Whooping Cough with 67 was the highest. No cases of Poliomyelitis were notified.

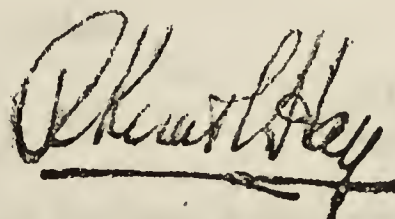
It is noted with much satisfaction that the Council is continuing its housing programme. Provision continues to be made for all sections of the community including old people in one-bedroomed flats; twenty-four such dwellings were commenced in 1956.

The number of ageing persons in our population continues to increase and for their care the Council might consider the advisability of acquiring and converting suitable buildings which, if administered by an outside voluntary organisation, would not involve the ratepayers with any appreciable financial burden yet would meet an ever increasing need.

In directing your attention to the various features of the report, I wish to thank my colleagues in other departments for their help throughout the year. In particular, would I acknowledge the assistance by your Chief Public Health Inspector and his help in the preparation of this report.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,



Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area: 1,173 acres. Estimated population at mid-1956: 9250.
 Number of inhabited houses (end of 1956) according to rate book: 3134.
 Rateable Value (1956/57): £107,821. Rates (1956/57) 18/6d. in the pound.
 Sum represented by penny rate (1956/57): £441.14.

Nantwich is an ancient town situated in the south-west corner of Cheshire and is a market town for a large and important agricultural area. The River Weaver and the Shropshire Union Canal pass through the district and in parts both form the boundary of the Urban Area.

Industrial enterprise exists mainly in the form of clothing manufacture, agricultural machinery and a tannery. There is scope for the establishment of light industries, road and rail communications being very convenient; by rail the town is served by the main lines from Crewe to Shrewsbury and Wellington and good roads radiate from the town to all parts of Cheshire, Shropshire, the Potteries and North Wales.

Vital Statistics.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate... ..	61	55	116
Illegitimate... ..	3	5	8
TOTAL	<u>64</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>124</u>

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ...	13.4
Corrected rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population... ..	13.67
Birth Rate for England and Wales.....	15.6

<u>Still Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate... ..	2	1	3
Illegitimate... ..	-	1	1
TOTAL	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>

Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.	0.432
Rate per 1,000 of the total births..	32.25
Of the total live births and still births, 3.23% were still births.	

<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
TOTAL (including inward transfers)	59	53	112

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population. ...	12.10
Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.	11.86
Death Rate for England and Wales.....	11.7

<u>Deaths of Infants.</u> (under 1 year of age)	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate... ..	1	1	2
Illegitimate.	-	-	-
TOTAL	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>

3.

Death rate of infants (under 1 year of age):-

All infants per 1,000 live births 16.12

Deaths of infants under 1 month	-	Male	-
		Female..	1
		Total...	<u>1</u>

Deaths from:-

Puerperal sepsis... ..	-	(-)
Other Puerperal causes.	-	(-)
Cancer (all ages)..	17	(15)
Measles	-	(-)
Whooping Cough (all ages)..	-	(-)
Respiratory tuberculosis (all ages)	-	(-)

The figures in parentheses refer to the previous year.

The extent of unemployment in the district during the year was negligible.

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

1. +Medical Officer of Health.	+R. Kenneth Hay, M.D. D.P.H.	Part Time
Chief Public Health Inspector and Meat and Food Inspector.	E. W. Bushell, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., C.S.I.B.	Full Time.
Additional Public Health Inspector.	J. P. Moulton, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., C.S.I.B.	Full Time.
Clerical and General Assistant.	Miss S. Sandland.	Full Time (Resigned)
	Miss B. Symms.	Full Time. (Commenced 4.6.56.)
Engineer and Surveyor.	E. H. Bailey, F.R.I.C.S., M.I.Mun.E., Dip.T.P.(Man), A.M.T.P.I.	Full Time.

+Jointly appointed as County Divisional Medical Officer and Medical Officer of Health to Nantwich Urban and Rural District Councils.

4.
2. (a) Laboratory Facilities.

Pathological specimens are submitted to:-

- (i) Public Health Laboratories at Manchester and Birkenhead.
- (ii) Chester Royal Infirmary and City Hospital.

Water samples for chemical examination are sent to the County Analyst, Chester.

Milk and ice-cream for bacteriological and biological examination are submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Birkenhead, and Chester City Hospital.

Although the Public Health Laboratory service directed by the Medical Research Council on behalf of the Ministry of Health can meet all needs for bacteriological investigation, it is not always practicable because of the distances involved to make use of the laboratories at Manchester and Birkenhead. An approach was made, therefore, to the Group Laboratory of the South Cheshire Hospital Management Committee at the Barony Hospital, Nantwich and it was agreed that they shall accept for bacteriological investigation specimens other than Milk and Ice-Cream. I am most indebted to Dr. J. D. Heppleston for undertaking this work for it is a most satisfactory arrangement.

(b) Ambulance Facilities.

The County Council undertakes this service through the Divisional Health Committee. There were three ambulances and two sitting case vehicles at Nantwich on a 24 hour on call basis to meet the needs of accidents, emergencies and infectious disease cases in the Division.

During the year a decrease in the number of patients carried and journeys performed occurred. Since 1948 this is the first occasion when this has taken place and one wonders if, at last, a saturation point has been reached. The service carried 8558 patients to and from hospital. The total mileage covered being 96,773. This compares favourably with 8895 patients and 101,429 miles in 1955.

The following is a summary of work done by these vehicles in the Division.

	Journeys		Patients Carried		Mileage		Accidents & Emergencies	
	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956
Ambulances.	1814	1596	5975	4867	56306	45698	201	268
Clinic Type Ambulances.	-	270	-	978	-	12674	-	-
Sitting Case Cars.	884	823	2852	2667	46539	37995	-	-
TOTAL.	2698	2689	8827	8512	102845	96367	201	268

Type of Case	Number		Type of Case	Number	
	1956	1955		1956	1955
Accidents	204	157	Mental	517	494
Analgesia Apparatus	1	-	Maternity	151	198
Acute Illness	57	43	Maternity(Emergency)	7	1
Ante-Natal Clinics	9	14	Out-Patients	6505	6916
General Illness	553	540	Infectious Diseases	15	13
Hospital Discharges	340	379	Tuberculosis	29	14
Inter-Hospital Transfers	122	88	Out-Patients T.B.	41	8
Infant Welfare Centres	-	2	Miscellaneous	7	28

(c) Nursing in the Home.

Valuable services is still being given by the three nurse midwives resident within the Urban District, their work being supplemented by two Health Visitors. These provisions together with the Domestic Help Service provided by the County Council enable us to provide a standard of domiciliary care without which many aged and infirm would have to be cared for in hospital.

(d) Consultation and Treatment Centres and Clinics.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Centre at The Dowery, Barker Street, is controlled by the Cheshire County Council and administered by the Divisional Health Committee. Two Health Visitors and a General Practitioner are in attendance, the latter being appointed on a rota basis by the Cheshire Local Medical Committee.

The Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic is held at the Crewe Memorial Hospital.

The Paediatric Clinic is held at the Stalbridge Road and Ludford Street School Clinics, Crewe.

The Orthopaedic Clinic functions in conjunction with the Orthopaedic Out-patients Department of the Oswestry Hospital and is held at the L.M.S. Rooms, Nantwich Road, Crewe.

The Venereal Diseases Clinic at Herdman Street, Crewe is administered by the County Council and serves an area including this Urban District.

A clinic for dental treatment for mothers, school children and children under five is held at the Barker Street Welfare Centre.

6. (e) Hospitals.

The extension to and the modernisation of the Barony Hospital during the past two years have been much appreciated by the residents of the town; the hospital renders a most valuable service.

The Cottage Hospital, a small modern and efficient institution, has beds for twenty patients.

Patients suffering from infectious diseases are accepted at the Crewe Isolation Hospital which has met all needs during the year.

In addition to the maternity wards at the Barony Hospital, the Maternity Hospital at The Cliffe, Wybunbury is available to patients in the district.

Alvaston Hospital continues to be used as a continuation annexe for the Crewe Memorial Hospital.

(f) Mortuary.

The arrangements made with the South Cheshire Hospital Management Committee for the use of the Mortuary at the Barony Hospital have worked satisfactorily and continue to meet the needs of the district.

SECTION C.

1. (a) Water Supply.

This is controlled by the Mid and South East Cheshire Water Board.

There is a sufficiency of water for the present needs of the existing population (drought conditions excepted), and the quality of the water, as delivered to the consumers, is satisfactory. Chemical and Bacteriological analyses are made frequently and these have proved satisfactory.

The following is a summary of results of samples submitted by the Water Board for bacteriological and chemical examination during the year, and for which copies of reports have been received.

No. of samples taken.	Source	Bacillus coli per 100c.c.			Faecal bacillus per 100c.c.		
		Absent.	Present.	Range.	Absent.	Present.	Range.
28	Baddiley Mere - Consumers' Taps.	25	3	1-	28	-	-
3	Baddiley - Raw.	-	3	17-180	1	2	1-13
2	Marsh Lane Housing Site.	2	-	-	2	-	-
1	Main - Beam St.	1	-	-	1	-	-
15	Bearstone - Raw.	14	1	1	14	1	1
14	Eaton - Raw.	14	-	-	14	-	-
12	Eaton - Consumers' Taps.	12	-	-	12	-	-
75	TOTAL.	68	7	1-180	72	3	1-13

One sample from a consumer's tap was examined for copper content and the report was as follows:-

Alkalinity as CaCO_3	3.0 parts per 100,000
Alkalinity as Na_2CO_3	1.7 parts per 100,000
Copper not exceeding	0.02 parts per million. pH.9.5

(b) Sewage Disposal.

The Engineer and Surveyor has kindly supplied the following information.

The Sewage Disposal Works at Windy Arbour are modern and consist of sedimentation tanks, filters, humus tanks and sludge drying beds. The effluent is discharged into the River Weaver.

All Sewage is pumped to the works from Beam Bridge Pumping Station. The storm water is dealt with at Beam Bridge Pumping Station where the storm water tanks deal with all flows above 3 d.w.f. and discharges to the River Weaver.

2. Rivers and Streams Pollution.

Responsibility for this work was transferred to the Cheshire Rivers Board as from 1st October, 1951.

3. (a) Closet Accommodation.

All premises in the district are served by water closets with the exception of those of which the Public Health Inspector gives details in his report under the heading "Pail Closets."

(b) Public Cleansing.

The collection and disposal of house refuse, trade refuse and night soil is controlled by the Surveyor, as is also street cleansing.

(c) Public Baths.

The Open Air Brine Swimming Pool, owned and controlled by the Council, is open from May to September each year. The pool is 100 feet by 50 feet and is supplied with brine from the Council's brine well at the rear of the Old Town Hall. About 9 ounces of brine is added per gallon of water. The pool is not heated but the water is filtered and sterilised by the "Break-point" chlorination process and fed to the pool through a cascade. Mixed bathing is allowed and dressing boxes for both sexes are provided. Cafe facilities are available.

Samples of water were taken for bacteriological and chemical examination from the mains supply and the swimming bath and satisfactory reports were received.

(d) Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

(e) Shops and Offices.

(f) Moveable Dwellings and Camping Sites.

(g) Eradication of Bugs.

(h) Smoke Abatement.

These matters are dealt with by the Public Health Inspector in his report.

(i) Shell Fish.

There are no shell fish beds or layings in the district.

SECTION D.

Inspection and Supervision of Food, Milk Supply, Meat and Other Foods.

These matters are fully covered in the Public Health Inspector's Report.

SECTION E.

1. Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Diseases.

The following notifications of infectious diseases were received during the year.

Disease.	Age Groups..								Total.
	under 1	1/ 3	3/ 5	5/ 10	10/ 15	15/ 25	25/ 35	35/ 45	
Measles.	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	3
Whooping Cough.	1	10	23	30	1	2	-	-	67
Scarlet Fever.	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	3
Pneumonia.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia.	-	-	-	-	-	7	3	3	13
Dysentery.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Totals.	3	11	25	32	2	9	3	3	88

	Immunisation		Vaccination	
Year of Immunisation and Vaccination.	Primary	Re-Immunisation	Primary	Re-Vaccination
1948	132	20	4	2
1949	91	33	32	5
1950	23	426	63	6
1951	86	19	49	12
1952	78	54	43	14
1953	53	109	64	6
1954	82	137	55	7
1955	68	52	40	5
1956	28	10	50	6

The responsibility for the provision and facilities for immunisation and vaccination rests with the Local Health Authority which in this County has delegated the responsibility to the Divisional Health Committee.

Throughout the year a vigorous campaign has been maintained in clinics and schools and in the homes to stress the importance of having children both immunised and vaccinated.

There are now in being specially arranged sessions for school children whose parents wish them to be immunised or re-immunised. These sessions are carried out in the schools by the General Practitioners in the town and so far the response has been excellent. I should like to thank the Doctors and the Head Teachers without whose co-operation the running of these sessions would not be possible.

The above table is a summary of the work carried out under this heading for the past nine years.

It should be pointed out however, that this table is compiled from returns received from the General Practitioners and does not give an accurate picture of the true position, for it is found on information supplied by parents that approximately 80% of school entrants have at some period during their pre-school life received primary immunisation against diphtheria.

I should like once again to stress the importance of having every child both immunised and vaccinated.

Also introduced during the year was the scheme for vaccination against Paralytic Poliomyelitis. The first batch of vaccine became available in May and as the amount was strictly limited, vaccination was confined to those children born in August 1948 to 1954 and October 1951 to 1954. Statistical appreciation of the value of this vaccine will have to await further trial but the preliminary reports are most encouraging.

10. B. C. G. Vaccination.

This scheme, administered by the Divisional Health Committee, commenced in December, 1954.

The following table, which will be continued in subsequent years gives a statistical analysis to the year ending 1956.

Year	No. of Parents notified.	Parents consent given.	No. of children tuberculin positive.	No. of children receiving B.C.G.	Percentage Tuberculin Positive.
1954	112	100	38	57	38
1955	462	376	143	205	41.4
1956	399	337	115	189	37.8

As the result of approaches made to the No. 3 Mass Miniature Radiography Unit, all children who, during the course of B.C.G. vaccination, were shown to be tuberculin positive, are now offered an X-Ray of Chest.

2. (a) Prevention of Blindness.

There was no special action by the Local Authority during the year.

(b) Tuberculosis.

No action was necessary during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 - tuberculosis persons in milk trade - or section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 - compulsory removal to sanatorium.

After the death of a patient or removal to sanatorium, all bedding, rooms, etc., is disinfected by fumigation with formaldehyde.

Primary notifications of new cases and mortality during 1956.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Respiratory		Non-respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 20	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 25	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-

The following statistics supplied by the County Divisional Health Office show the state of register for the Urban Area.

	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		TOTAL	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Cases on register at 1st January, 1956.	28	14	4	2	32	16
Cases notified during the year.	4	3	-	2	4	5
Cases removed during year - died and removed from district, etc.	3	-	-	-	3	-
Cases on register at 31st December, 1956.	29	17	4	4	33	21

SECTION F.

Factories Act, 1937 & 1948, Part 1 of the Act. (a) Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspector.)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		inspections	written notices	occupiers prosecuted
i. Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	18	-	-	-
ii. Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	65	37	4 Informal 2 Formal	-
iii. Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority + (excluding out-workers' premises)	8	-	-	-
TOTAL	91	37	6	-

+ i.e. Electrical stations (section 103 (1)), institutions, (section 104) and sites of building operations and works of engineering construction, (section 107 and 108).

12. (b) Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	by H.M. Inspector.	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences					
a. insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
b. unsuitable or defective	3	2	-	1	-
c. not separate for sexes (S.7.)	1	-	-	1	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	4	2	-	2	-

Part VIII of the Act.

Outwork. (Section 110 and 111).

Nature of Work	Number of outworkers in August list required by section 110(1) (c).	Number of cases of default in sending lists to the Council.	Number of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	Number of instances of work in unwholesome premises.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.
Wearing apparel - Making etc.	16	-	-	-	-	-

Health Department,
Brookfield House,
Nantwich.

October, 1957.

To The Chairman and Members of the
Nantwich Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year 1956.

There are no outstanding achievements to which one can lay claim and the year was one of continuous all-round effort. The Food Hygiene Regulations came into force at the beginning of the year with a consequent increase in responsibility upon the department. These regulations had been long awaited with interest but like so much legislation, interpretation of the provisions has not been an easy matter.

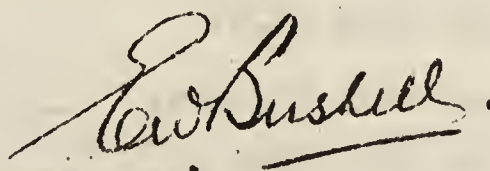
The Council are to be congratulated upon the marked improvements carried out in the Market Hall, particularly in connection with those stalls used for the sale of food for human consumption.

During the year we looked forward to substantial amendments in the law concerning rent control and we now have these measures in operation. The procedure and effect of this legislation is viewed with mixed feelings by all concerned.

There was one change in staff during 1956 when Miss S. Sandland left upon marriage after approximately four years useful service with the Council. In her stead, Miss B. Symms commenced duties in June and she is proving to be a worthy successor with a keen interest in the work of the Council and, in particular, of this department.

This is my twelfth Annual Report to this Council and whilst not wishing to indulge in idle repetition, I must place on record my appreciation for the continued good will by Councillors and fellow Officers and in particular Dr. Hay, Mr. J. P. Moulton and Miss B. Symms.

Yours faithfully,



Chief Public Health Inspector.

I. NUMBER AND NATURE OF VISITS MADE.

Appointment - Contractor...	...	...	...	...	...	6
- Owner..	...	...	...	...	...	16
Disinfections...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Disinfestations.	...	...	...	...	...	31
Dairies ...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Dustbins...	...	...	...	...	...	613
Dwellinghouses - Housing Act	...	...	...	...	...	6
- Public Health Act	...	...	...	...	...	49
Drainage...	...	...	...	...	...	98
Factories - Mechanical	...	...	...	...	...	37
Food Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	42
Food Premises - General	...	...	...	...	...	75
Housing - Individual Unfit Houses	...	...	...	...	...	14
- Visits to Applicants for Council Houses..	...	...	...	...	...	64
- General	...	...	...	...	...	888
- Improvement Grants	...	...	...	...	...	9
Housing Interviews...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ice Cream Sampling...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Infectious Diseases - Primary	...	...	...	...	...	6
Keeping of Animals...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	76
Milk Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	132
Reinspections - Public Health and Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	199
Rivers, ditches and watercourses.	...	...	...	...	...	7
Rodent Control...	...	...	...	...	...	296
Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspections...	...	...	...	...	...	581
Shops Act	...	...	...	...	...	4
Schools..	...	...	...	...	...	4
Substitution of Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	2
Verminous Premises...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Moveable Dwellings...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tips.	...	...	...	...	...	6

TOTAL ... 3,307

Complaints received.. 50

II. NOTICES SERVED.

<u>Public Health Act, 1936.</u>	<u>Served.</u>	<u>Complied.</u>
Informal - General Matters.	81	93
- Re Dust Bins	292	292

Public Health Act, 1936. Served. Complied. 15.

Formal - Section 39 (drainage)	2	} 6	1	} 4
- Section 45 (closets)	1		1	
- Section 93 (nuisances)	3		2	

Housing Act, 1936.

Informal...	...	...	...	...	-	-
Formal	...	...	...	...	10	-

Factories Act, 1937.

Informal...	...	...	...	...	4	2
Formal	...	...	...	...	2	1

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Informal...	4	3
-------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---	---

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Informal...	28	17
-------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----	----

Municipal Bin Scheme.

Intimations served re dust bins - Private Properties ...	236
- Council Properties ...	56
Bins supplied under scheme - Annual Charges...	185
- Council Houses - direct charge	17
- Council Houses - by Housing Department Stock	39
	202

Compliances include notices served in previous years and cancellations for reissue. Of the notices outstanding at the year end the majority are in hand by Contractors.

III. DEFECTS DEALT WITH IN NOTICES SERVED.

The variety of items dealt with in notices has been maintained and includes dampness, defective plasterwork, floors, window frames, roofs, yard paving, water closet fittings, dustbins, water pipes, drains, gutters, downspouts etc.

IV. HOUSING.

Site works have continued in connection with Marsh Lane estate and building of permanent houses proceeded steadily. Development of part of this site for houses for sale to tenants also proceeded and has provided a welcome means of house ownership at favourable terms.

Development of the Mount site for private building plots was continued. By the end of the year a further 56 dwellings were provided by the Local Authority and the total of post-war council houses was brought up to 683 including 50 temporary houses. There were 216 brick houses and flats under contract by the Urban Council at the end of the year. During the year 26 houses were provided by private enterprise. Tenancies were granted to 97 applicants during the year including the rehousing from unfit houses and 78 new tenancies commenced. Demolition Orders were made concerning three houses and two Closing Orders on terraced houses. Six unfit houses were vacated, four by informal action: one was demolished in anticipation of formal action. Formal notices for extensive repairs and improvement were served under the Housing Act concerning ten houses.

Two applications for Improvement Grants were received. There were no applications for Certificates of Disrepair. There has been constant attention to the repair and maintenance of Council Houses and much work has been done through the department in this connection.

V. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Cases of "notifiable" diseases are visited as soon as possible after notification; in the instances of measles and whooping cough, a leaflet is sent to the parent advising on isolation and exclusion of contacts from school. Head teachers are advised of the occurrence of cases of Scarlet Fever, etc.

The number of cases of diseases notified during the year were three of Scarlet Fever, three of Measles, sixty-seven of Whooping Cough, thirteen of Puerperal Pyrexia, one of Pneumonia and one Dysentery.

There were six new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year.

Where desirable the disinfection of rooms and bedding was carried out, the latter being usually removed to the Isolation Hospital for steam disinfection. Such disinfection is always carried out upon removal of Pulmonary Tuberculosis patients. Fumigation is carried out with formaldehyde. Where requested, fumigation and treatment of bedding is carried out following death from Cancer. This practice is appreciated by relatives and has good psychological effect.

The immunisation and vaccination schemes have been operated by the County Council through the Divisional Health Committee. Every opportunity is taken to encourage parents to have children treated. The value of such schemes is reflected in the absence of cases of diphtheria and smallpox during recent years.

VI. DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILK SAMPLES.

The responsibility for administration and control of milk production and licensing of producers of designated milks lies with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and the County Council is responsible for control and licensing of pasteurising and sterilising plants. This leaves the District Councils with the control of distributors of milk and licensing of dealers. Sterilised milk is also a recognised official designation.

The Agricultural Executive Committee Milk Testing Advisory Officer takes samples from producers and retailers, but results are not available for quotation. The County Council samples milk at pasteurising and sterilising depots.

There were at the end of the year sixteen distributors of milk and four dairy premises on the register. The following licences, issued by the Local Authority were in force during the year.

Dealers' Licences to use designation					
"Sterilised"	...	...	...	...	9
Dealers' Licences to use designation					
"Tuberculin Tested"	...	...	...	...	6
Dealers' Licences to use designation					
"Pasteurised"	...	...	...	...	9
Supplementary Dealers' Licences to use designation					
"Tuberculin Tested"	...	...	...	...	8
Supplementary Dealers' Licences to use designation					
"Pasteurised"	...	...	...	...	9
Supplementary Dealers' Licences to use designation					
"Sterilised"	...	...	...	...	4

Three samples of designated milk were submitted for standard tests and satisfactory reports were received.

VII. BAKEHOUSES.

There are ten bakehouses on the register and those are visited periodically under the Food and Drugs Act and the Factories Act.

VIII. SHOPS.

There were no complaints in connection with the ventilation, temperature and sanitary conveniences in the shops which number approximately 200.

IX. FACTORIES.

One firm submitted returns of "outworkers" which contained details of sixteen persons engaged in the finishing of clothing. The houses of the outworkers are visited occasionally and conditions are noted. There are sixty-five such premises in which power is used and eighteen in which work is done manually. The standard of accommodation is good and there have been no serious contraventions of the Factories Act and Regulations.

X. WATER SUPPLY.

Samples of the main supply are submitted for bacteriological and chemical examination by the Water Board and these have not given cause for serious concern. A detailed summary of such samples is contained in the Medical Officer of Health's Report.

XI. MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

Two trailer caravans and a temporary building were licensed as dwellings during the year. No nuisance has arisen from the use of these structures.

XII. OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There has been no complaint or cause for action during the year apart from periodic treatment which is carried out at the premises for the control of rats and mice.

XIII. COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no premises of this character in the district.

XIV. CANAL BOATS.

No complaints were received and no inspections were made during the year.

XV. SMOKE ABATEMENT.

There was no occasion for formal action during the year. One cannot feel completely satisfied but emissions of industrial smoke have not been such as to justify formal action.

XVI. SCHOOLS.

No complaints were received as to the general condition of schools. Treatment was necessary at two premises to deal with mice.

XVII. LICENSED PREMISES.

There are thirty-four Licensed Premises, including two Clubs, in the district. On the whole the sanitary accommodation is satisfactory but there are houses at which improvements are desirable. The premises are conducted in a clean manner by licencees and there has been no occasion to complain in that respect.

Repairs and improvements were commenced in certain premises.

XVIII. VERMIN.

In several instances advice was given to occupiers to deal with minor infestations with ants and cockroaches, and insecticidal powder was supplied in some cases. Treatment was carried out to deal with ants in fifteen instances, cockroaches 2, fleas 1, bugs 3; anti-fly treatment was carried out at premises concerned with school meals.

XIX. ERADICATION OF BUGS.

"Killgercide" liquid insecticide, containing D.D.T., is stocked for this purpose and during the year one privately owned premises and two Council houses were treated.

Where necessary the belongings of selected tenants of Council Houses are treated before moving into the houses. A limited amount of treatment is carried out for tenants of occupied premises, but the owner is held responsible for the treatment of unoccupied premises. Treatment is carried out by direct labour under my supervision.

XX. RODENT CONTROL.

One part-time operative works under my supervision in this matter. There was no occasion for formal action during the year. The Council tips and sewage works are regularly treated and the systematic treatment of the sewerage system was continued. The baits used in treatment have been sausage rusk, bread mash, rolled oats and sugar meal and these have been poisoned with zinc phosphide, red squill or arsenic. Warfarin poison in an oatmeal base has also been used successfully. Apart from special visits to premises conditions are observed in the course of visits for other purposes, such as food inspections, factories, shops, etc.

Occupiers of infested premises have the opportunity of themselves dealing with rats and mice or alternatively having the service provided by the Local Authority. In all cases including private dwellings, the costs incurred, plus an establishment charge, are recovered: no fixed contract charges are entertained. In connection with agricultural premises it is possible for the occupier to contract with the Agricultural Executive Committee for service, or have the service of the Local Authority.

There was no occasion to serve formal notice during the year.

Private annual treatment agreements in force	12
Short term private agreements for treatment in force...	6

Nature of Infestation.

	Rats	Mice	Rats and Mice	Total
Local Authority properties (including sewers and tips)	5	-	-	5
Business Premises	5	8	1	14
Dwellings (including Council houses)	-	4	-	4
Agricultural properties	1	-	-	1
TOTAL	11	12	1	24

Premises treated by Nantwich Urban District Council during the year -

- Council properties	1
- Council Tips	2
- Sewage Works	1
- Sewerage system	1
- Business premises	14
- Dwellings	4
- Agricultural properties	1

Visits by operative to premises to survey and treatment ...	327
Visits by officer to premises in survey and supervision ...	296
Premises showing no evidence upon survey... ..	-

Councillors Miss A. Astles and G. Harvey and I serve on the Workable Area Committee.

XXI. SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933/54.

There were seventeen Slaughtermen's Licences in force during the year.

XXII. PAIL CLOSETS.

Two pail closets were replaced by water closets, one was abolished.

In 1945 there were 133 pail closets in use and this number has been reduced to 28 of which 21 are emptied at weekly intervals by the Local Authority. The conversion or abolition of these closets has been achieved by informal negotiations.

The following is the position at the end of 1956:-

In connection with unfit houses	10	} 28
Beyond reach of sewer extension impracticable.	8	
At premises where drainage outfall requires investigation...	2	
Suitable for substitution of water closet. ...	8	
Total known to exist at beginning of 1956. ...	31	
Abolished during year... ..	1	
Water closets substituted during year ...	2	
Total known to exist at end of 1956. ...	28	

XXIII. GENERAL SANITATION AND NUISANCES.

One licensed premises was provided with satisfactory sanitary accommodation. Sinks and indoor water supply were provided at nine houses and a bathroom was provided.

Under the Municipal Bin Scheme 185 bins were supplied in connection with which the annual charge of 5/- each is to be made. A further 17 bins were supplied to Council Houses as a direct charge to the Housing Repair Fund; from 1st April, 1956 the supply to Council Houses was derived from a special stock held in the Housing Department and 39 bins were supplied from that source; bins were privately supplied by owners or occupiers in 51 instances. The refuse tips are treated for the control of insect pests and regular treatment for rodent control is carried out.

XXIV. RIVER POLLUTION.

The Cheshire Rivers Board is now responsible for work in the prevention of and abatement of pollution of rivers.

Two private slaughterhouses were licensed and these have accommodated five of the retail butchers; the remaining butchers have obtained supplies "off the hook" from premises in the rural area or Crewe. Waste and condemned material is removed from the slaughterhouses at regular and frequent intervals by a private contractor who makes a salvage allowance to the butchers.

There have been no serious difficulties with the two slaughterhouses but at the one used by four butchers there has been congestion at times which has made slaughter and inspection a bit of a problem. The spirit of co-operation from the butchers has continued.

The standard of meat quality has been good as total carcase condemnation has been necessary only concerning three beasts. No instance of *Cysticercis Bovis* was found.

The following is a summary of food premises in the district. There are 23 registered under Section 16 of the 1955 Act for the preparation or manufacture of sausages, potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food including 5 fish frying premises; 42 premises are registered for the manufacture, storage and sale of ice cream. 75 visits to food premises were made in the year apart from 42 visits to examine food stocks.

Butcher.	18
General Stores (grocery).	51
Wet Fish, Poultry etc.	3
Greengrocery.	8
Confectioners.	18
Cafes & Restaurants.	9
Bakehouses.	10

These figures do not represent separate premises in every category: for example on the same premises one may find a bakehouse, cafe, and confectionery which deals also with a wide range of grocery.

There have been continued frequent requests for examination of foodstuff and the following is a statement of goods examined and disposed of in a manner to prevent human consumption. The usual method of disposal is by burying at the refuse tip.

Food examined and found unfit for human consumption.

Pineapples.	23 Cans.	Apricots.	21 Cans.
Milk.	22 Cans.	Cooked Shoulder Ham.	1lb.12oz.
Luncheon Meat.	3 Cans.	Sponge Mixture.	5 Pkts.
Minced Meat Loaf.	1 Can.	Corned Beef.	6 Cans.
Red Cabbage.	6 Jars.	Mixed Pickles.	1 Jar.
Turkish Delight.	6 Pkts.	Raspberries.	2 Cans.
Peaches.	25 Cans.	Horlicks.	1 Jar.
Grapefruit.	3 Cans.	Tomato Soup.	1 Can.
Pears.	13 Cans.	Oranges.	9 Cans.
Tomatoes.	51 Cans.	Ox Tongue.	6 Cans.

22.

Ox Tongue Spread.	1 Tin	Apricot Pulp.	2 Cans.
Apples.	2 Cans.	Shoulder Ham.	3 Cans.
Crabs.	1 Stone.	Fruit Cocktail.	1 Can.
Peas.	3 Cans.	Strawberries.	9 Cans.
Cod.	4 Stone.	Fresh Peaches.	143.
Vegetable Soup.	1 Can.	Bacon.	4lb.
Plums.	1 Can.	Cream.	2 Cans.
Pork Sausages.	29lb.	Beef Sausages.	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.
Fresh Lamb.	10lb.	Fresh Pork.	92 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.
Fresh Beef.	2101lb.		

Total estimated weight. 24 cwts. 3qrs. 5lb. 12ozs.

In the slaughterhouses three beast carcasses were condemned on account of generalised Tuberculosis. Apart from this there were miscellaneous items of offal such as livers, lungs, mesenteries, heads and tongues with localised affection with tuberculosis or parasitic conditions but no case of Cysticercis Bovis occurred.

There were no horses slaughtered for human consumption during the year.

The following animals were slaughtered and examined in the slaughterhouses.

	Cattle.	Calves.	Pigs	Sheep
Inspected	378	23	386	1719
Affected with Tuberculosis in carcase or organs.	50(13.2%)	-	20(5.2%)	-
Affected with other disease or parasites in organs.	62(16.4%)	1(4.3%)	33(8.5%)	54(3.1%)

There is no ice-cream made in the area by the "hot mix" method. Most of it is obtained in a prepacked condition from wholesale makers in other districts, and only a very small amount is made locally by "cold mix".

Mr. Stacey Hallard, Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures Department, Cheshire County Council, has kindly given the following particulars of samples taken for analysis under the Food and Drugs Act during the year.

Coffee & Chicory Essence...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.
Lemon Cheese...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.
Canned Luncheon Meat.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.
Meat Paste	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.
Milk - Condensed Special F.C.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.
Olive Oil.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.
Orange Drink...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.
Pepper...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.
Sweets (Pear Drops)...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.
Milk.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.
Vinegar - Malt.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.
TOTAL	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30

Number adulterated or not up to the recognised standard of quality - 2.

Particulars of Samples not up to Standard.

No.	Sample	Result of Analysis	Remarks
1	Milk	Genuine but abnormal milk deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 1.1%	Retail No action
2	Milk	Genuine but abnormal milk deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 2.3%	Retail No action

Mr. Hallard supplements the above information with the following observations:-

"Although two milks failed to reach the Standard they were certified as "genuine but abnormal". Thus all the samples were of genuine quality and this is a highly satisfactory result."

XXVI. SCHOOL CANTEENS & KITCHENS.

Special treatment of the school meals kitchen and the cooking depot was carried out during the main holidays by spraying for the prevention of fly infestation. This is done by arrangements with and at the expense of the Education Committee. The co-operation of the staff of these premises has been helpful. The marked absence of live flies from these premises is an indication of the value of this treatment.

A D O P T I V E A N D L O C A L A C T S .

IN FORCE IN THE URBAN DISTRICT

Date of adoption or when
same came into force.

Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890. 	1st October, 1900.
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890: - Parts I and III 	18th July, 1894.
- Part IV 	1st September, 1901.
Public Libraries Act, 1892, 1893, 1901 and (Offences) Act, 1898 	8th August, 1887.
Private Street Works Act, 1892 	26th April, 1895.
Nantwich Urban District Council Act, 1903 	21st July, 1903.
Local Government Board's Provisional Orders (Confirmation) Number 7 Act, 1905	21st August, 1905.
Local Government Board's Provisional Orders (Confirmation) Number 4 Act, 1907	28th August, 1907.
Local Government Board's Provisional Orders (Confirmation) Number 9 Act, 1912	7th August, 1912.
Local Government Act, 1894, Section 8, s.s. 1 Power of Parish Council, as to Public Offices, etc... 	17th October, 1923.
Local Government Act, 1894, Section 13, s.s. 2. Public Footpaths 	11th July, 1924.
County of Chester Review Order, 1936 ...	1st April, 1936.
Cheshire County Council Act, 1953 ...	1st April, 1954.

